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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/002,297	10/24/2001	Meang K. Chia	B-3581CIP4CIP 619161-3	4118

7590 09/04/2003

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EXAMINER

JONES, DAVID B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3725

DATE MAILED: 09/04/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/002,297	Chia	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	David B. Jones	3725	

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-104 is/are pending in the application.

 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-104 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-36, drawn to a chain and method of making a six-link rope chain, classified in class 59, subclass 35.1.
 - II. Claims 37-88, drawn to a length of jewelry chain having first and second helical strands exhibiting two distinctly different visual properties, classified in class 59, subclass 80.
 - III. Claim 89, drawn to a method for manufacturing a chain by rolling a length of material into a cylindrical shape and cutting across the rolled material, classified in class 59, subclass 35.1.
 - IV. Claims 90-94, drawn to a chain length having interior variations to save metal and exterior variation to enhance appearance, classified in class 72, subclass 80.
 - V. Claims 95-100, drawn to a method of making a chain of solid and hollow cross-sections, classified in class 59, subclass 35.1.
 - VI. Claim 101, drawn to a method of manufacturing a chain by bending material in two operations, forming links and then forming a chain, classified in class 59, subclass 35.1.

VII. Claims 102-104, drawn to a method of manufacturing a chain by texturing various surfaces of a link and then assembling the links into a chain, classified in class 59, subclass 35.1.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
Inventions I-VII are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions as shown above are not disclosed as usable as a whole together. They are different processes or products to form different and unrelated results. Albeit that that they are drawn to rope jewelry chains, they still fail to disclose a single invention composed of different subcombinations. Further each chain is composed of different modes of manufacture, e.g., hollow/solid chains, rolled up link material, cut from tubular stock, texturing, variable exterior and interior edges, etc., and different effects caused thereby.
3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their numerous groups of claims and recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to David B. Jones whose telephone number is (703) 308-1887.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

In the event that the Applicant (s) wishes to communicate via Fax number for Group 3700 is (703) 305-3579.

wahp



DAVID B. JONES

PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3725